

Remarks/Arguments

The Examiner is thanked for the careful review of this Application. Applicant's representative also thanks the Examiner for taking time to discuss the application. Examiner has noted that claims 35-41 would be patentable if rewritten to include the features of claim 34. As amended, claim 35 includes the features of claim 34 and claim 34 has been canceled. Claims 1, 3, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14-16, 19, 23, 25, 35-50 are pending after entry of the present Amendment.

Rejection under 35 USC § 112:

Claims 1, 12, 23, and 34 were rejected because there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation in the claim. Claims 1, 12, and 23 have been amended to provide a proper antecedent basis for the limitation in the claim. Claim 34 has been canceled. Accordingly, Applicants request the rejection under 25 USC §112 be removed.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102:

The Office has rejected claims 1-34 and 42-50 under 35 U.S.C. section 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,615,264 to Stoltz et al. (Stoltz). For at least the followings reasons, Stoltz fails to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention, as defined in independent claims 1,12, and 23.

Stoltz discloses a method and apparatus for authentication and session management for a network utilizing a validated token to give a user access to a session. Applicant's claimed invention is different because Applicant's claimed invention defines a method of accessing a session in which it is possible for a plurality of first tokens to be converted to

an authenticated token that is associated with the plurality of first tokens for a given user. Because the authenticated token incorporates a user's identity in a different content from any of the user's first tokens it is possible for the authenticated token to be common among the plurality of a user's first tokens. Therefore, the common authenticated token is necessarily different than the first token presented to the system because it has different content. Stoltz is silent regarding a method or apparatus in which a plurality of first tokens are authenticated and converted to a common authenticated token that is capable of providing access to a session.

The teachings of Stoltz do not encompass Applicant's claimed invention. In Applicant's claimed invention it is the common authenticated token accessible through a plurality of first tokens that enables a user to access a common session from multiple remote terminals. By converting a variety of first token to a common authenticated token, and associating the authenticated token to a single session, a session can be accessed with a wide variety of first tokens.

Applying the teachings of Stoltz, the first tokens would not be converted to a common token resulting in each first token being associated with a new session. If a user had multiple first tokens, it is possible they would have to keep track of which first token was assigned to a specific session in order to access the desired session. Under Stoltz, for example, it is possible for one discrete session to be opened when a user begins a session with a cardkey token. If the same user logs on with a biometric token, it is possible that a second discrete session would be started. Thus, the user who started the session with a cardkey token may be unable to access the same session from a second remote location without the cardkey. The user may also be unable to access the session started with the biometric token at a remote location if the remote location lacks the same biometric measuring capacity as the location that spawned the session. Additionally, even though it was the same user who spawned both sessions, the session spawned with the cardkey

token may be unable to access the session spawned with the biometric token and vice versa.

Applicant's claimed invention is different than Stoltz because a user's first tokens can be associated with a common authenticated token. This can result in a user accessing one common session regardless of the first token used to access the system.

For at least the same reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims are novel over the cited prior art. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claimed invention, as defined in claims 1, 3, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14-16, 19, 23, 25, and 42-50 is novel over the cited prior art.

As noted above, Stoltz fails to teach each and every element of the claimed invention. Consequently, Stoltz cannot be regarded under 35 USC §102(e) alone. Rather, Stoltz can only be cited as art under a 35 USC §102(e)/103(c). Stoltz was assigned to the assignee of the present application, and the inventors of the present application also had a duty to assign to the same assignee. Consequently, under 35 USC § 103(c), Stoltz should be removed as a reference against the present application.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office has rejected claims 1, 12, 23 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. section 103(a) as being anticipated over U.S. Patent No. 5,706,349 to Aditham in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,774,551 to Wu. Examiner has noted that claims 35-41 would be patentable if rewritten to include the features of claim 34. As amended, claim 35 includes the features of claim 34 and claim 34 has been canceled. Furthermore, independent claims 1, 12, and 23 have been amended to incorporate the patentable features found in claim 35. Accordingly, the claims 1, 3, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14-16, 19, 23, 25, and 42-50 are submitted to be patentable over the cited art of record. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that a notice of allowance be issued for the claims.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present Amendment, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (408) 774-6911. If any additional fees are due in connection with filing this Amendment, the Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. SUNMP601). A duplicate copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

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